Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Regular Meeting

May 28, 2021

Location: Zoom

Time: 8 a.m.–12 p.m.

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Members Present:

Eric Fredericksen, Chair, SAPD
Dan Hall, Vice Chair, Chiefs of Police Association
Dave Jeppesen, Health & Welfare
Grant Burgoyne, Senate Judiciary & Rules
Ashley Dowell, Comm of Pardons & Parole
Kedrick Wills, Idaho State Police
Daniel Chadwick, Public Member

James Cawthon, Judge, District Court Todd Lakey, Senate Judiciary & Rules Chairman Rafael Gonzalez, U.S. Attorney, District of Idaho Colleen Zahn, Idaho Attorney General's Office Darren Simpson, Judge, District Court Greg Chaney, House Jud & Rules Chairman Denton Darrington, Public Member Marianne King, Office of Drug Policy Monty Prow, IDJC Josh Tewalt, Department of Correction Darrell Bolz, Public Defense Commission Sara Omundson, Idaho Supreme Court Grant Loebs, Prosecuting Attorneys Assoc.

Comprising a quorum of Idaho Criminal Justice Commission (Commission)

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Members Absent:

Kieran Donahue, Idaho Sheriffs Association Thomas Sullivan, Judge, Magistrate Court Jared Larsen, Office of the Governor Vacant, House Jud, Rules & Admin Seth Grigg, Idaho Association of Counties Eric Studebaker, Department of Education

Bernadette LaSarte, Public Member

Others Present:

Kathleen Elliott, Idaho Public Defense Commission Heather Cunningham, Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance

Agenda Who's Responsible		Meeting Outcomes/Decisions Reached	Due Date
8:00 am	Call to Order– Chair Eric Fredericksen		
(10 min)	 Welcome and Roll Call— Chair Eric Fredericksen Review Commission's Vision and Mission 		
	Statement and Values—Commission Members		
	Commission Management		
8:10 am (20 min)	Action Item – Approve April 2021 Minutes	There was a motion to approve the minutes from April 2021 by Dan Chadwick, Darrell Bolz seconded. Motion carried.	
	Subcommittee Reports	The human trafficking subcommittee is closer to having a screener done.	
	 Research Alliance - Suspended Sex Offense 	The sex offender subcommittee did an overview of the work from past meetings	
		and discussed possible changes to the spousal rape law, as well as some other changes to bring to the commission.	
	Promote Well-Informed Policy Decisions		
8:30 am (25 min)	Annual Update – Ashley Dowell, Pardon and Parole	Types of Commission decisions	
		Main decision is grants for parole.	
		The full Commission to makes decisions on cases about firearms, commutations,	
		and pardons. A three-member panel can make decisions on things like parole,	
		revocation (people who have violated their parole), reinstatements, medical parole (people who have to meet certain criteria of terminally ill) and self-initiated parole reconsideration.	
		Decision making authority comes from I.C. 20-223, "parole shall be ordered when, in the discretion of the Commission, it is in the best interests of society,	
		and the commission believes the prisoner is able and willing to fulfill the obligation s of a law-abiding citizen. Such determination shall not be a reward of clemency and it shall not be considered to be a reduction of sentence or a pardon."	

Investigative reports include:

Risk assessments, parole guidelines score (look at offense, disciplinary history, completion of programs, and risk assessment), victim information, mental health evaluation, sex offender risk assessments (master level professional completes this), prior criminal history, institutional behavior, seriousness of the crimes, plus more.

Decisions:

Increased in 2020 by 5.15%. The major were parole decisions (2,875) and the smallest decisions were revocations (1,299).

The history of the five-year grant rate for parole has been up and down. It has dipped about every other year.

Parole Violation types:

Technical violations are of a condition of the parole contract to include new charges. Non-technical violations are absconding or conviction of a new misdemeanor or felony. A technical violation could be a dirty UA but it could also be a new charge for child pornography. This could be a wide range of violations.

Process:

The parolee is arrested on a parole agent's warrant,

The parole officer submits a report of violation to the Commission, A commission warrant is issued and replaces the Agent's warrant (the Commission cannot issue a warrant without a report of violation from the officer),

A parole violation hearing is conducted to determine guilt or innocence:

Parolee may requestion a continuance of any hearing, and

If innocent of all violation, then there is an immediate release.

There are monthly reviews to consider reinstatement on parole:

If parole officer or violation hearing officer recommend. Revocation hearings are held to determine whether parole is revoked or reinstated.

Breakdown of violations by type in 2020:

The highest violation types are felony, violent felony, and violent misdemeanors. The second highest violation type is absconding and the lowest is non-violent misdemeanors. Violations are organized by severity and violators may fall into more than one category.

Violations have increased 23% but that doesn't mean they all have revocations. In 2016 and 2017 there were individuals with multiple cases/violations. As sanctions didn't change behavior. Individuals have increased in revocation hearings as they have exhausted their other diversion options.

Violation dispositions:

Revocations increased from 2015 to 2020 because individuals have exhausted their other options. These other options were removed in about 2017 and in 2019 other diversions are again not an option and the last resort is a revocation hearing.

Hearing process for COVID:

In April the Commission moved hearings to WebEx. One person had to be present at the Idaho State Police district office and the other commission members have been via virtual. Offenders have called in via phone or computer. Hearing order is posted on commission website. There are executive sessions by Breakout room.

Lessons learned:

Great feedback from victims: no travel necessary, less harassment to victims, testimony is provided in a familiar location, there is a choice to be on video or not, and there is also a choice to testify or only observe.

Increased hearing participation: more members of the public virtually attending, no need to travel to the facility, better allows for public officials to attend, and there were less issues with inappropriate demeanor.

Maximum discretion:

If the Commission grants parole, granting only open tentative parole dates. There have been some modifications to the hearing schedule to see if there were others that could be parole eligible. The Commission reviewed reinstatement options for parole violators more regularly, and also added in hearing days to accommodate continued hearings, technical issues and burnout.

2019/2020 Grant rates:

The Commission was pretty consistent from year to year even though we were in a pandemic.

Releases per month:

In April there was a spike due to the changes the Commission made back in March. There were more releases in 2020 compared to 2019.

Case reviews:

The Commission developed a list of cases for review in collaboration with the Department of Correction that had to include cases submitted by IDOC's medical provider who met certain criteria. There was a structured approach to reviewing these cases.

Review Outcomes:

Most of the cases reviews resulted in no action (46%). 30% of reviews resulted in grant tentative parole dates. Only 1% of the cases reviewed resulted in reinstatement of parole.

Rumor v. Reality:

Rumors that there were changes to the processes and that there were large lots of inmates being released. These are not true.

Public Safety:

The Commission took some action to mitigate some concerns and decisions had to made on unique facts of each case. The decisions also had to include the inmate completing their programming. They must have an approved release plan.

	T	
8:45 am (25 min)	Annual Update – Monty Prow, IDJC	96% of those children who enter the system never advance to an actual institution.
		Mission: To develop productive citizens in active partnership with communities.
		Approach: Balanced and restorative justice to include community safety, accountability, and competency development.
		Idaho juvenile Justice Continuum: Youths are placed in diversion when appropriate or authorized, then moved to probation. 96% have some probation terms left and this is when they are passed back to the counties.
		97% of youth never enter the juvenile system because of the collaboration with many people and stakeholders. There are many options for prevention or intervention efforts. In 2008 there was a study that said the system was going to need 800 beds but the state only has 173 today and have not come close to that 800 mark.
		We keep kids out of the system by using our resources. IDJC funnels resources to the counties to help. There are quite successful outcomes such as 98% in substance use disorders. The clinician program is a joint effort with IDHW. It has served 1,311 youth. This has been going on for about 10 years.
		Idaho continues to see a decrease in numbers each year. This is very exciting to see.
		If kids need services, IDJC uses targeted treatment, education, counseling, engage the family (one of the most important because these children often return to the same family environment), and build skills of each child (i.e. vocational and anger management).

		Data: Complexity of cases are 61% substance use disorder, 53% elevated trauma scores, 52% mental health diagnosis, and 35% co-occurring diagnosis. Responses to these complexities include individual treatment, staff trained in "Think Trauma," ongoing staff training in suicide prevention, and collabotation in "Youth Empowerment Services." The recidivism rate (new offenses) is 22% and the recommitment rate (placed back into IDJC custody) is 7%. Positive youth outcomes: The things that we also look at to see if we are making a difference are youth receiving a taxable wage post-release, receiving a high school diploma or a GED, education scores, and youth participating in community service (55,340 hours have been logged by youth in our state). Looking forward: Research in education/skill building to continue and enhance employability and family engagement. For every dollar we spend in the community, we save the
		This program has far exceeded the expectations. The court has been a very positive part of this success. We are helping kids be productive who would not have otherwise without this program.
		We have created a legacy program and the success has been proven. The counties hesitated in the beginning but proof is showing how we have been able to manage the system.
9:15 am (30 min)	Annual Report – Nancy Volle, SOMB	The Sexual Offender Management Board was developed in 2011. Authority comes from I.C. <u>18-8312</u> and <u>18-8314</u> .
		SOMB Rules and Standards can be found in <u>IDAPA</u> and on their website: https://somb.idaho.gov/

The board consists of 11 members. There are 10 voting members and one non-voting member.

Certification:

The SOMB certifies adult and juvenile psychosexual evaluators, treatment providers, and post-conviction polygraph testing examiners (PCSOT). A person must be certified by the SOMB to provide services to individuals in the community as ordered by the Courts, IDOC, IDJC, and the Commission for Pardons and Parole.

Previous changes:

Developed website for applying for certification, easy access to information, and maintains a current roster of all providers. The SOMB condensed standards to make them easier to navigate. The QA process for renewal applications was separated the certification process. Plus, more.

Current Changes:

Successfully separated QA process from the certification renewal process which greatly minimized delays and allows SOMB to dedicate more time to QA. Standard were changed to allow providers flexibility in accumulating CEUs online to accommodate for COVID. Administration is moving towards paperless system, and there is continued research in sex offender registries.

Training:

Annual training: STATIC/STABLE/ACUTE

Work with IDOC to bring a master trainer to Idaho to offer training, so Idaho can have more certified assessment trainers. Train the trainer.

<u>Tiered Registry:</u>

Looking at move to a 3-4 tiers system.

Assessments to be used will be:

Static 99R and Stable 2007 for adult males,

LSI-R for females,

RM2000 for adult males (can be used for child porn cases), and JSOAP-II for juveniles.

		The SOMB will pay close attention to SB384 from California which is a new tiered registry with a risk-based system. The SOMB is working to develop a risk based tiered registry.
9:45 am (15 min)	Other ICJC Business	The draft strategic plan from the IBHC is out and open for public comment. There will be public hearing on June 1 st . There is also a survey that lets you view the plan and give the option to give comment on each section of the plan. The IBHC will meet on June 4 th and will set their priorities. The want to know what people think they should focus on first. (https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/about-dhw/boards-councils-committees/idaho-behavioral-health-council-ibhc) June will be in person.
10:00 am	Adjournment	

Next regularly scheduled meeting to be held in Boise, Friday, June 25, 2021

"Collaborating for a Safer Idaho"